

8 Red Newsletter

September Issue



Important Dates

16 Picture Day

27 Teamworks
fieldtrip

28 Curriculum
Night- 6:30pm

Contact:

8Red@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Email the above to reach all of the Team Teachers at once.

Team Announcements

Schoology for daily HW and updates:

Link to your child's account to stay up-to-date on 8 Red announcements as well as HW assignments.

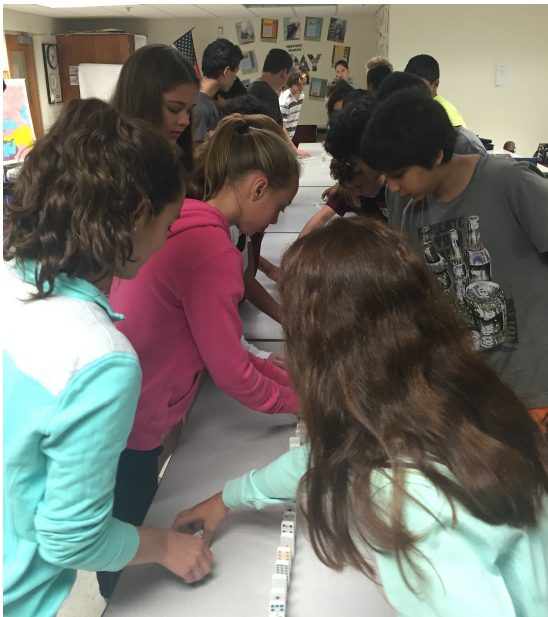
To join Schoology follow these step-by-step instructions:
<http://schools.shrewsbury.ma.gov/it/Schoology-Parent-Instructions.cfm>

Teamworks: September 27th

Students will need to bring a lunch from home, and wear gym attire (eg. sneakers, comfortable clothes).

The cost per student is \$5.00 (check only-made out to the "Oak Activity Fund"). Please include your child's name on the check and return it with your child to their homeroom teacher. To give permission, parents must visit the [Oak Middle School Website](#) to review the *Teamworks Participant Waiver & Registration Form*. Click the Parent Portal link at the bottom of the page, choose "Sports, Activities & Permission slips" link on the left navigation bar and check the Teamworks Field Trip Permission box and submit.

Class Updates



“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” –Nelson Mandela

Social Studies: Mr. Kewriga

Welcome to 8 Red Social Studies class! We will be studying a variety of World History topics ranging from the Roman Empire up through the Age of Exploration. Our year starts off with lessons about how to think like a Historian, primary and secondary sources, important historical terms and definitions, and the Domino Effect. These concepts set the foundation for our entire year in Social Studies. The first unit of the year will be The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire. This is a very engaging and hands on unit with many current day connections.

Science: Ms. Dillon

The beginning of the year will feature two standards: 1) Understands and applies the process of scientific inquiry and 2) Understands the properties of matter. Scientists will develop inquiry skills by asking questions, designing their own experiments and analyzing data, and sharing their findings using the Claim, Evidence, Reasoning lab report format. During our study of properties of matter students will learn about density, matter, and even discover how a bowling ball can float!

Essential Math: Mr. Shaw

Having the right mindset can impact all aspects of our lives. We started the year by discussing Growth Mindset vs. Fixed Mindset and how it affects all students in a Math classroom. We spoke about using strategies to help us succeed, persevere, and reflect on our mistakes. Next, we will begin reviewing 7th-grade material and prepping for the year to come. Integers, combining like terms, distributive property, and simple equations will be the main topic until the end of this month. Students will also sign up for accounts on IXL.com to help review their topics and Xtramath.org to help with their fluency in math.

Essential ELA: Ms. Wallach

We began with reading and viewing Malala's speech to the UN accepting the Nobel Peace Prize. We will continue with reading her memoir later this month.

Math: Ms. Allen

We will start off the year in math by reviewing concepts from earlier years including decimals, fractions and integers. To help us do this we will create accounts on Math XL, where your child will have nightly problems to practice their number sense skills. Then we will move into our first unit, “Say It With Symbols,” which is on equation solving using the distributive property and solving equations with variables on both sides of the equation.

ELA: Ms. LaValley

We kick off the year with an informal class discussion of summer reading books. From there, we will read non-fiction articles on the topics of 9/11 and the Afghan-American War as the background information to our first novel, *Under the Persimmon Tree* by Suzanne Fisher Staples. Each week, students will be expected to read a set number of chapters, complete short writing assignments and participate in discussion to explore the big questions of how facts of the world can be presented through fiction and how conflict can change a person.